

## **Romania**

### **Facts and Statistics**

**Location:** Southeastern Europe, bordering Bulgaria 608 km, Hungary 443 km, Moldova 450 km, Serbia and Montenegro 476 km, Ukraine (north) 362 km, Ukraine (east) 169 km

**Capital:** Bucharest

**Population:** 22,355,551 (July 2004 est.)

**Ethnic Make-up:** Romanian 89.5%, Hungarian 6.6%, Roma 2.5%, Ukrainian 0.3%, German 0.3%, Russian 0.2%, Turkish 0.2%, other 0.4% (2002)

**Religions:** Eastern Orthodox (including all sub-denominations) 87%, Protestant 6.8%, Catholic 5.6%, other (mostly Muslim) 0.4%, unaffiliated 0.2% (2002)

### **The Romanian Language**

The official language is Romanian, and it is spoken by approximately 89% of the 23m population. Hungarian is spoken by around 7% of the population, mainly in Transylvania. There is also a population of German speakers who make up around 1.5% of the national population.

### **Romanian Society & Culture**

#### **Hierarchy**

- . Romania is a hierarchical society where age and position are respected.
- . Older people are viewed as wise since they have earned life experience.
- . Romanians expect the most senior person, by age or position, to make decisions that are in the best interest of the group.
- . Titles are very important and denote respect.
- . It is expected that you will use a person's title and their surname until invited to use their first name.

#### **The Family**

- . The family is the foundation of the social structure and forms the basis of stability for most people.
- . The individual derives a social network and assistance in times of need from their family.
- . Families are patriarchal. The father is the head of the family.

#### **Privacy**

- . Romanians are formal and reserved with a strong need for privacy.
- . Most do not trust strangers readily.
- . They are generally shy and quiet when you first meet and admire modesty and humility in themselves and others.
- . Once you develop a personal relationship Romanians will open up slightly.
- . Although always polite, they seldom move to a first-name basis with people outside their extended family or very close friends.